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(54) Characterization and structure of genes for protease A and protease B from streptomyces griseus.

(57) A DNA signal sequence initially isolated from Streptomyces griseus encodes a signal peptide which directs the secretion, via a fused intermediate, of a protein from the cell within which the DNA signal sequence is expressed. The signal sequence is derived from genes encoding protease A and protease B of S. griseus. The DNA signal sequence encodes a thirty-eight amino acid signal peptide. A DNA construct, including the DNA signal sequence and a gene sequence encoding a protein, when transformed into a living cell by a suitable vector, results in the signal peptide correctly directing the secretion of a mature protein of desired structure, particularly from prokaryotic genera selected for their ability to display enzymatic activity of a type typified by, but not exlusive to, that of protein disulphide oxidoreductase, EC 5.3.4.1, more particularly in the genera Streptomyces, and most particularly in Streptomyces lividans 66.

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CHARACTERIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF GENES FOR PROTEASE A AND PROTEASE B FROM STREPTOMYCES GRISEUS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a biologically pure DNA signal sequence which encodes an amino acid signal peptide necessary for directing the secretion from certain defined hosts of proteins in bioactive form.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In the biological production of commercially viable proteins by the fermentation of microorganisms, the ability to produce the desired proteins by fermentation with secretion of the proteins by the microorganisms into the broth is very significant. However, there are many commercially viable proteins encoded by genetically engineered DNA constructs which are not secreted by the cells in which the DNA is expressed. This often necessitates harvesting the cells, bursting the cell walls, recovering the desired proteins in pure form and then chemically re-naturing the pure material to restore its bioactive function. This downstream processing, as it is called, is illustrated in Figure 1.

Some cells and microorganisms carry out the biological equivalent of downstream processing by secreting proteins in bioactive form. The mechanism which directs the secretion of some proteins through the cell walls is not fully understood. For example, in Streptomyces griseus, an organism used for the commercial production of Pronase, the species secretes many extra cellular proteins (Jurasek, L., P. Johnson, R.W. Olafson, and L.B. Smillie (1971), An improved fractionation system for pronase on CM-Sephadex Can. J. Biochem., 49:1195-1201). Protease A and protease B, two of the serine proteases secreted by S. griseus, have sequences which are 61% homologous on the basis of amino acid identity (Fujinaga. M., L.T.J. Delbaere, G.D. Brayer, and M.N.G. James (1985),Refined structure of α-lytic protease at 1.7A resolution; Analysis of hyrodgen bonding and solvent structure, J. Mol. Biol., 183:479-502; Jurasek, L., M.R. Carpenter, L.B. Smillie, A. Gertler, S. Levy, and L.H. Ericsson (1974), Amino acid sequencing of Streptomyces griseus protease B, A major component of pronase, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm., 61:1095-1100; Young, C.L., W.C. Barker, C.M. Tomaselli, and M.O. Dayhoff (1978), Serine proteases, In M.O. Dayhoff (ed.), Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure 5, suppl. 3:73-93). These proteases also have similar tertiary structure, as determined by X-ray crystallography (Delbaere, L.T.J., W.L.B. Hutcheon, M.N.G. James, and W.E. Thiessen (1975), Tertiary structural differences between microbial serine proteases and pancreatic serine enzymes, Nature 257:758-763; Fujinaga. M., L.T.J. Delbaere, G.D. Brayer, and M.N.G. James (1985), Refined structure of α-lytic protease at 1.7 A resolution; Analysis of hyrodgen bonding and solvent structure, J. Mol. Biol., 183:479-502; James, M.N.G., A.R. Sielecki, G.D. Brayer, L.T.J. Delbaere, and C.-A. Bauer (1980), Structures of product and inhibitor complexes of Streptomyces griseus protease A at 1.8. A resolution, J. Mol. Biol., 144:43-88). Although the structures of proteases A and B have been extensively studied, the genes encoding these proteases have not been characterized before.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with this invention, the genes encoding protease A and protease B of S. griseus have been isolated and investigated to reveal DNA sequences which each direct the secretion of an encoded protein fused either directly or indirectly to a signal peptide encoded by the DNA.

According to an aspect of the invention, a recombinant DNA sequence comprises a signal sequence and a gene sequence encoding a protein. The recombinant DNA sequence, when expressed in a living cell, encodes an amino acid signal peptide with the protein. The signal peptide directs secretion of the protein from a cell within which the DNA signal sequence is expressed.

According to another aspect of the invention, a biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence encodes a 38 amino acid signal peptide which directs secretion of a recombinant gene-sourced protein linked to such 38 amino acid signal peptide, from a cell in which the DNA signal sequence is expressed. The DNA signal sequence is isolated from Streptomyces griseus.

According to another aspect of the invention, the DNA signal sequence in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein is inserted into a vector, such as a plasmid or a phage.

According to another aspect of the invention, the DNA signal sequence is adapted for expression in a living cell having enzymes catalyzing the formation of disulphide bonds.

According to another aspect of the invention, the biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of Figure 4a.

According to another aspect of the invention, the biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of Figure 5a.

According to another aspect of the invention, a fused protein is encoded by the recombinant DNA sequence of Figure 4 or Figure 5.

According to another aspect of the invention, a transformed prokaryotic cell is provided which has inserted therein a suitable vector including the recombinant DNA encoding the signal protein. The transformed prokaryotic cell may be selected from the Streptomyces genera.

According to another aspect of the invention, a biologically pure culture has a transformed prokaryotic cell with the recombinant DNA sequence in a suitable vector. The culture is capable of producing, as an intermediate, the fused protein of the amino acid signal peptide and the protein. The protein itself is produced in a recoverable quantity upon fermentation of the transformed cell in an aqueous nutrient medium. The signal peptide directs secretion of the protein from the cell.

According to another aspect of the invention, a biologically pure culture, transformed with the functional signal sequence as described above, is able to direct the secretion from the cell of proteins whose bioactivity is dependent upon the formation of correctly positioned intramolecular disulphide bonds.

A biologically pure DNA sequence encoding a fused protein including protease A has the combined DNA sequence of Figures 4a, 4b and 4c.

A biologically pure DNA sequence encoding a fused protein including protease B has the combined DNA sequence of Figures 5a, 5b and 5c.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

With reference to the Figures, a variety of short forms have been used to identify restriction endonucleases, amino acids, deoxyrbonucleic acids and related information. Standard nomenclature has been used in identifying all of these components as are readily appreciated by those skilled in the art.

Preferred embodiments of the invention are described with respect to the drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates downstream processing;

Figure 2 shows restriction endonuclease maps of DNA fragments of sprA and sprB;

Figure 3 illustrates restriction endonuclease maps and sequencing strategies in sequencing DNA fragments containing sprA and sprB;

Figure 4 is the DNA sequence of sprA;

Figure 4a is the DNA sequence encoding the sprA (protease A) signal peptide;

Figure 4b is the DNA sequence encoding the sprA (Protease A) propeptide;

Figure 4c is the DNA sequence encoding mature protease A;

Figure 5 is the DNA sequence of sprB;

Figure 5a is the DNA sequence encoding the sprB (protease B) signal peptide;

Figure 5b is the DNA sequence encoding the sprB (protease B) propeptide;

Figure 5c is the DNA sequence encoding mature protease B;

Figure 6 is an alignment of the amino acid sequences deduced from sprA and sprB to develop homology between the two sequences.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The organism Streptomyces griseus is a well recognized microorganism. It is commercially used for the production of the enzyme Pronase. It is appreciated, however, that this organism also secretes two enzymes, protease A and protease B, which are both serine proteases. Although the structure of proteases A and B have been extensively studied, the genes encoding these proteins, and the manner in which this genetic information is used to signal secretion by the cells, is not understood. According to this invention, the genes which encode protease A and protease B and provide for the secretion of these proteins in bioactive form have been discovered. It has been determined that each of protease A and B is included in a precursor protein which is processed to remove an amino-terminal polypeptide portion from the mature protease. It has further been determined that each of protease A and B precursor proteins is enzymatically

processed to form correctly-positioned intramolecular disulphide bonds, which processing is concomitant with removal of the amino terminal addressing peptide from the mature precursor. The discovered genes, which encode proteases A and B, their intermediate address-competent forms, and their control elements, have been designated sprA and sprB.

As discussed in the following articles, Jurasek, L., M.R. Carpenter, L.B. Smillie, A. Gertler, S. Levy, and L.H. Ericsson (1974), Amino acid sequencing of Streptomyces griseus protease B, a major component of pronase., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm. 61:1095-1100; Young, C.L., W.C. Barker, C.M. Tomaselli, and M.O. Dayhoff (1978), Serine proteases, In M.O. Dayhoff (ed.), Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure 5, suppl. 3:73-93, proteases A and B are homologous proteins containing several segments of identical amino acid sequence. In accordance with this invention, the genetic code, which makes and directs the secretion of each of proteases A and B, has identical DNA sequences corresponding to the regions of identicality for the homologous proteins proteases A and B. In order to isolate the genes, this assumption, that identicality in portions of the gene sequences would occur, was made so that an oligonucleotide probe could be designed from one of the similar regions in the sequences.

In order to extrapolate the gene sequence which would encode the similar amino acid sequence, the known codon bias for Streptomyces was relied upon to develop the nucleotide probe (see Bernan, V., D. Filpula, W. Herber, M. Bibb, and E. Katz (1985), The nucleotide sequence of the tyrosinase gene from Streptomyces antibiotics and characterization of the gene product, Gene 37:101-110; Bibb, M.J., M.J. Bibb, J M Ward, S.N. Cohen (1985), Nucleotide sequences encoding and promoting expression of three antibiotic resistance genes indigenous to Streptomyces., Mol. Gen. Genet. 199:26-36; (Thompson, C.J., and G.S. Gray (1983), Nucleotide sequence of a streptomycete aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene and its relationship to phosphotransferases encoded by resistance plasmids, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80:5190-5194). Once the probe was constructed, it was then possible to probe the DNA sequences of S. griseus to determine if there were any corresponding nucleic acid sequences in the microorganism. Since it was known that there were two proteases, A and B, the oligonucleotide probe should have revealed two DNA fragments detected by hybridization analysis, and in fact, not only did the probe hybridize equally to two fragments generated in the genomic library of S. griseus, but also two fragments generated by BamHI digest (8.4 kb and 6.8 kb) or BglII (11 kb and 2.8 kb) were isolated from the genomic library. As a cross-check with respect to the predictability of such probe, the same fragments were detected in genomic DNA libraries of other isolates of S. griseus. It was noted, however, that there was no such hybridization of the oligonucleotide probe with DNA from other Streptomyces such as S. lividans.

Plasmids were constructed containing digested fragments of S. griseus The oligonucleotide probe was used to isolate developed plasmids containing sprA and SprB. The screening by use of the probe was accomplished by colony blot hybridization where approximately 15,000 E. coli transformants containing the developed plasmids were screened. Twelve transformants were detected by the probe and isolated for further characterization. These colonies contained two distinct classes of plasmid based on restriction analysis. As determined from the hybridization of genomic DNA, the plasmids contained either the 6.8 kb or the 8.4 kb BamHI fragment. These fragments contained the SprA and SprB genes.

The fragments as isolated by hybridization screening were tested for the expression of proteolytic activity. With these plasmids identified, such characterization may be accomplished in accordance with a variety of known techniques in accordance with a preferred embodiment of this invention.

The 6.8 kb and 8.4 kb BamHI fragments were ligated into the BglII site of the vector pIJ702. Transformants of S. lividans containing these constructions were tested on a milk plate for secretion of proteases. A clear zone, which represented the degradation of the milk proteins, surrounded each transformant that contained either BamHI fragment It was noted that the clear zones were not found around S. lividans colonies which contained either pIJ702 only or no plasmid construct.

Proteolytic activity was also observed when the BamHI fragments were cloned in either orientation with respect to the vector, thereby minimizing the possibility of read-through transcription of an incomplete protease gene. This observation provides evidence that the two BamHI fragments contain an intact protease gene which is capable of effecting secretion in a different Streptomyces species, as for example the S. lividans. With this particularly relevant characterization of the BamHI fragment, and knowing that the desired gene was in these fragments, it was possible to isolate and to sequence the genes encoding protease A and protease B.

According to a preferred aspect of this invention, the particular protease gene contained within each cloned BamHI fragment was determined by dideoxy sequencing of the plasmids using the oligonucleotide probe as a primer in such analysis. The 8.4 kb BamHI fragment was found to contain sprB, because a polypeptide deduced from the DNA sequence matched a unique segment of the known amino acid sequence of protease B. The 6.8 kb BamHI fragment contained the sprA by process of elimination. The

protease genes in these fragments were localized by digesting the plasmids and determining which of the restriction fragments of the plasmids were capable of hybridizing to the oligonucleotide probe.

Figure 2 shows detailed restriction maps of the 6.8 kb and 8.4 kb BamHI fragments. Hybridization to the oligonucleotide probe was confined to a 0.9 kb PvuII-StuI fragment of sprA and a 0.6 kb PvuII-PvuI fragment of sprtB. Such hybridization is indicated by the heavy lines in Figure 2. Hybridization to the cloned BamHI fragments and the 2.8 kb BglII fragment of sprB agrees with the hybridization to BamHI and BglII fragments of genomic DNA. Thus, rearrangment of the BamHI fragments containing the protease genes is unlikely to have occurred.

The functional portions of the sprA- an sprB-containing DNA were determined by subcloning restriction fragments thereof into pIJ702. The constructed plasmids were transformed into S. lividans and tested for proteolytic activity. The 3.2 kb BamHI- BglII fragment of sprA and the 2.8 kb BglII fragment of sprB, when subcloned into pIJ702 in either orientation, resulted in the secretion of protease from S. lividans. The intact protease genes were further delimited to a 1.9 kb StuI fragment for sprA and a 1.4 kb BssHII fragment for sprB. With reference to Figure 2, each of these functionally active subclones are indicated below the restriction maps which contain the region for each gene which hybridized to the oligonucleotide probe.

In order to determine the nucleic acid sequence of the protease genes, the 3.2 kb BamHI-BglII fragment of sprA and the 2.8 kb BglII fragment of sprB were subcloned into pUC18 to facilitate further structural characterization. As shown in Figure 3, the restriction maps of these subclones and the strategies which were used to sequence the 1.4 kb SalI fragment containing sprA and the 1.4 kb BssHII fragment containing sprB are shown. The resultant DNA sequences of sprA and sprB are shown in Figures 4 and 5, respectively. The predicted amino acid sequence of protease A differed from the published sequence by the amidation of amino acid 133, whereas that of protease B was identical to the published sequence, (see Fujinaga. M., L.T.J. Delbaere, G.D. Brayer, and M.N.G. James (1985), Refined structure of α-lytic protease at 1.7 A resolution; Analysis of hyrodgen bonding and solvent structure, J. Mol. Biol. 183:479-502).

Analyzing the sequences of Figures 4 and 5, it is apparent that each sequence contains a large open reading frame with the coding region of the mature protease situated at the 3′ end. For the protease A and protease B genes, the sequence encoding the carboxy-terminus of the protease is followed immediately by a translation stop codon. At the other end of the sequence, the predicted amino acid sequences appear to extend beyond the amino-termini of the mature proteases A and B by an additional 116 amino acids for sprA of Figure 4 and 114 amino acids for sprB of Figure 5. The putative GTG initiation codons at each of these positions (-116 for Figure 4; -114 for Figure 5) are each preceded by a potential ribosome binding site (as indicated by the series of five dots above the sequence) and followed by a sequence which encodes a signal peptide. The processing site for the signal peptidase (identified by the light arrow in Figures 4 and 5) is predicted at 38 amino acids from the amino-terminus of the putative precursor. [For clarity, that part of the nucleic acid sequences of Figures 4 and 5 corresponding to the signal peptide portion of sprA and sprB is reproduced in Figures 4A and 5A, respectively]. The propeptide is encoded by the remaining sequence between the signal processing site (light arrow) and the start of the mature protein (indicated at the dark arrow). [For clarity, that part of nucleic acid sequences of Figures 4 and 5 corresponding to the propeptide portion of sprA and sprB is reproduced in Figures 4B and 5B, respectively]. The mature protease is encoded by the codon sequence 1 through 181 for Figure 4 and 1 through 185 for Figure 5. [For clarity, that part of the nucleic acid sequences of Figures 4 and 5 corresponding to the mature protein portion of sprA and sprB is reproduced in Figures 4C and 5C, respectively]. The amino acid sequence for codons -116 through +181 of Figure 4 and the amino acid sequence for codons -114 through +185 of Figure 5, when made in the living cell S. griseus, are acted upon in a manner to produce in the culture medium externally of the living cells the mature bioactive enzymes protease A and protease B. The processing involved in accordance with the contained information encoded by that portion of the gene from start of the promoter to start of the mature protein in each case included providing a secretory address, the correct signal peptide processing site, the necessary propeptide structure not only for secretion but also for correct disulphide bond formation concomitant with secretion, and competent secretion in bioactive form.

In accordance with this invention, the ability of the signal peptide to direct the secretion of bioactive protein was established by inserting known DNA sequences at the beginning and at the end of known sequences. For example, consider the sequence shown in Figure 5. In particular, the promoter and initiator ATG of the aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene, (Thompson, C.J., and G.S. Gray (1983), Nucleotide sequence of a streptomycete aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene and its relationship to phosphotransferases encoded by resistance plasmids, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 80:5190-5194) had been inserted preceding the second codon (AGG at -113) of the signal sequence of Figure 5. Due to the insertion of this new promoter and initiator, the sprB gene, now under the control of this non-native promoter, directed both elevated levels and earlier expression of proteolytic activity when compared with the unaltered sprB gene.

The secretion of bioactive protease B in this construction indicated that nucleic acid sequences preceding the GTG initiation codon at -114 are not required for the correct secretion of the protease B in bioactive form, provided an active and competent promoter is placed in the precise location indicated.

In order further to demonstrate the universality of the discovered signal peptide, the sprB coding region was replaced with a gene sequence encoding the mature amylase from S. griseus. Hence the nucleic acid sequence encoding the amylase was inserted in place of the sequence of Figure 5 to the right of the light arrow. It was determined that the resulting genetic construction directed the production of an extracellular protein having an N-terminal alanine, properly positioned intramolecular disulphide bonds, and exhibiting amylolytic activity at a level comparable to that of a similar construction with the natural signal peptide of amylase. In accordance with this invention, the 38 amino acid signal peptide of Figures 4 and 4A and 5 and 5A is sufficient to direct the secretion of non-native protein in bioactive form.

Since both signal sequences encode for the signal peptides of Figures 4 and 4A and 5 and 5A, the organization of the coding regions of sprA and sprB were investigated by comparing the amino acid homology of the encoded peptide sequences. Such comparisons are set out in Figure 6 where amino acid homology has been compared for the signal peptide of Figure 6a, the propeptide of Figure 6b and the mature protease of Figure 6c. A summary of such homology is provided in the following Table I.

TABLE I

Homology of spr A and spr B Coding Regions			
	Length (codons)	Protein Homology %	DNA Homology %
Signal	38	50	58
Propeptide	79	43	62
NT protease[a]	87	45	58
CT protease[b]	103	75	75
Total Protease	190	61	67
Total coding region	307	55	65

a amino-termini of mature proteases (amino acids 1-87)
b carboxy-termini of mature proteases (amino acids 88-190)

The alignment of amino acid sequences translated from the coding regions of the sprA and sprB genes indicates an overall homology of 54% on the basis of amino acid identity. As indicated in Table I, the sequence homology is not uniformly distributed throughout the coding region of the sprA and sprB genes. The carboxy-terminal domains of the proteases A and B are 75% homologous as noted under the heading "CT protease" whereas the average homology for the remainder of the coding region is only 45%, indicated under the heading "NT protease". The amino terminal domains containing the signal and propeptide regions were similar in both extent of homology and distribution of consensus sequences, as indicated under the headings "signal" and "propeptide". The unexpectedly high DNA sequence homology relative to that of the protein sequences is particularly due to the 61% conservation in the third position of each codon of the sequence. These investigations, revealing the close homology between sprA and sprB genes, suggest that both genes originated by duplication of a common ancestral gene. With appropriate care and investigation, the commonality of the signal peptides can be determined, thus establishing the cue for secretion of proteins and hence providing sufficient information to construct, from the signal DNA of sprA and sprB, a single nucleic acid sequence which will be competent to direct protein secretion.

In accordance with the invention, a recombinant DNA sequence can be developed which encodes for desired protein where the expressed protein, in conjunction with the signal peptide and optionally the propeptide, provide for secretion of the desired protein in bioactive form. The recombinant DNA sequence may be inserted in a suitable vector for transforming a desired cell for manufacturing the protein. Suitable expression vectors may include plasmids and viral phages. As is appreciated by those skilled in the art, the bioactivity of secretory proteins is assured by establishing the correct configuration of intramolecular disulphide bonds. Thus, suitable prokaryotic hosts may be selected for their ability to display enzymatic activity of a type typified by, but not limited to, that of protein disulphide oxidoreductase, EC 5.3.4.1.

The particular protein encoded by the recombinant DNA seqence may include eukaryotic secretory enzymes, such as prochymosin, chymotrypsin, trypsins, amylases, ligninases, chymosin, elastases, lipases,

and cellulases; prokaryotic secretory enzymes such as glucose, isomerase, amylases, lipases, pectinases, cellulases, proteinases, oxidases, lignises; blood factors, such as Factor VIII and Factor IX and Factor VIII-related biosynthetic blood coagulant proteins; tissue-type plasminogen activator; hormones, such as proinsulin; lymphokines, such as beta and gamma-interferon, and interleukin-2; enzyme inhibitors, such as extracellular proteins whose action is to destroy antibiotics either enzymatically or by binding, for example, a B-lactamase inhibitor, a-trypsin inhibitor; growth factors, such as organism or nerve growth factors, epidermal growth factors, tumor necrosis factors, colony stimulating factors; immunoglobulin-related molecules, such as synthetic, designed, or engineered antibody molecules; cell receptors, such as cholesterol receptor; viral molecules, such as viral hemaglutinins, AIDS antigen and immunogen, hepatitis B antigen and immunogen, foot-and-mouth disease virus antigen and immunogen; bacterial surface effectors, such as protein A; toxins such as protein insecticides, algicides, fungicides, and biocides; and systemic proteins of medical importance, such as myocardial infarct protein (MIP), weight control factor (WCF), calloric rate protein (CRP) and hirutin (HRD).

One skilled in the art can easily determine whether the use of any known or unknown organism will be within the scope of this invention in accordance with the above discussion and the following examples.

Microorganisms which may be useful in this respect as potential prokaryotic expression hosts include: Order:
Actinomycetales; Family: Actinomycetaceae Genus: Matruchonema, Lactophera; Family Actinobacteria: Genus Actinomyces, Agromyces, Arachina, Arcanobacterium, Arthrobacter, Brevibacterium, Cellulomonas, Curtobacterium, Microbacterium, Oerskovia, Promicromonospora, Renibacterium, Rothia; Family Actinoplanetes: Genus Actinoplanes, Dactylosporangium, Micromonospora; Family Nocardioform actinomycetes: Genus Caseobacter, Corynebacterium, Mycobacterium, Nocardia, Rhodococcus; Family Streptomycetes: Genus Streptomyces, Streptoverticillium; Family Maduromycetes: Genus Actinomadura, Excellospora, Microspora, Planospora, Spirillospora, Streptosporangium; Family Thermospora: Genus Actinosynnema, Nocardiopsis, Thermophilla; Family Microspora: Genus Actionospora, Saccharospora; Family Thermoactinomycetes: Genus Thermoactinomyces; and the other prokaryotic genera: Acetivibrio, Acetobacter, Achromobacter, Acinetobacter, Aeromonas, Bacterionema, Bifidobacterium, Flavobacterium, Kurthia, Lactobacillus, Leuconostoc, Myxobacteria, Propionibacterium.

The following species from the genus Streptomyces are identified as particularly suitable as hosts:
acidophillus, albus, amylolyticus, argentiolus, aureofaciens, aureus, candidus, cellostaticus, cellulolyticus, coelicolor, creamorus, diastaticus, farinosus, flaveolus, flavogriseus, fradiae, fulvoviridis, fungicidicus, gelaticus, glaucescens, globisporus, griseolus, griseus, hygroscopicus, ligninolyticus, lipolyticus, lividans, moderatus, olivochromogenus, parvus, phaeochromogenes, plicatus, proteolyticus, rectus, roseolus, roseoviolaceus, scabies, thermolyticus, tumorstaticus, venezuelae, violaceus, violaceus-ruber, violascens, and viridochromogenes. acrimycini
alboniger
ambofaciens
antibioticus
aspergilloides
chartreusis
clavuligerus
diastatochromogenes
echinatus
erythraeus
fendae
griseofuscus
kanamyceticus
kasugaensis
koganeiensis
lavendulae
parvulus
peucetius
reticuli
rimosus
vinaceus

Also, the following eukaryotic hosts are potentially useful in the practice of this invention:
Absidia, Acremonium, Acrophialopora, Acrospeira, Alternaria, Arthrobotrys, Ascotricha, Aureobasidium,

Beauveria, Bispora, Bjerkandera, Calocera, Candida, Cephaliophora, Cephalosporium, Cerinomyces, Chaetomium, Chrysosporium, Circinella, Cladosporium, Cliomastix, Coccospora, Cochliobolus, Cunninghamella, Curvularia, Custingophara, Dacrymyces, Dacryopinax, Dendryphion, Dictosporium, Doratomyces, Drechslera, Eupenicillium, Flammulina, Fusarium, Gliocladium, Gliomnastix, Graphium, Hansenula, Humicola, Hyalodendron, Isaria, Kloeckera, Kluyveromyces, Lipomyces, Mammaria, Merulius, Microascus, Monodictys, Monosporium, Morchella, Mortierella, Mucor, Myceliophthora, Mycrothecium, Neurospora, Oedocephalum, Oidiodendron, Pachysolen, Papularia, Papulaspora, Penicillium, Peniophora, Periconia, Phaeocoriolellus, Phanerochaete, Phialophora, Piptocephalis, Pleurotus, Preussia, Pycnoporus, Rhioncladiella, Rhizomucor, Rhizopus, Rhodotorula, Robillarda, Saccharomyces, Schwanniomyces, Scolecabasidium, Scopulariopsis, Scytalidium, Stachybotrys, Tetracluium, Thamnidium, Thermioascus, Thermomyces, Thiclavia, Tolypocladium, Torula, Torulopsis, Trametes, Tricellula, Trichocladium, Trichoderma, Trichurus, Truncatella, Ulocladium, Ustilago, Verricullium, Wardomyces, Xylogone, Yarrowia.

Preferred embodiments of the invention are exemplified in the following procedures. Such procedures and results are by way of example and are not intended to be in any way limited to the scope of the claims.

PREPARATIONS

Strains and Plasmids

Streptomyces griseus (ATCC 15395) was obtained from the American Type Culture Collection. Streptomyces lividans 66 (Bibb, M.J., J.L. Schottel, and S.N. Cohen (1980), A DNA cloning system for interspecies gene transfer in antibiotic-producing Stretomyces, Nature 284:526-531) and the plasmids pIJ61 and pIJ702 from the John Innes Institute; Thompson, C.J., T. Kieser, J.M. Ward, and D.A. Hopwood (1982), Physical analysis of antibiotic-resistance genes from Streptomyces and their use in vector construction, Gene 20:51-62; Katz, E., C.J. Thompson, and D.A. Hopwood (1983), Cloning and expression of the tyrosinase gene from Streptomyces antibioticus in Streptomyces lividans, J. Gen. Microbiol., 129:2703-2714). E. coli strain HB101 (ATCC 33694) was used for all transformations. Plasmids pUC8, pUC18 and pUC19 were purchased from Bethesda Research Laboratories.

Media, Growth and Transformation

Growth of Streptomyces mycelium for the isolation of DNA or the preparation of protoplasts was as described in Hopwood, D.A., M.J. Bibb, K.F. Chater, T. Kieser, C.J. Bruton, H.M. Kieser, D.J. Lydiate, C.P. Smith, J.M. Ward, and H. Schrempf (1985), Genetic Manipulation of Streptomyces, A Laboratory Manual, The John Innes Foundation, Norwich, UK. Protoplasts of S. lividans were prepared by lysozyme treatment, transformed with plasmid DNA, and selected for resistance to thiostrepton, as described in Hopwood, D.A., M.J. Bibb, K.F. Chater, T. Kieser, C.J. Bruton, H.M. Kieser, D.J. Lydiate, C.P. Smith, J.M. Ward, and H. Schrempf (1985),Genetic Manipulation of Streptomyces, A Laboratory Manual, The John Innes Foundation, Norwich, UK. Transformants were screened for proteolytic or amylolytic activity on LB plates containing 30 ug/ml thiostrepton, and either 1% skim milk or 1% corn starch, respectively. E. coli transformants were grown on YT medium containing 50 ug/ml ampicillin.

Materials

Oligonucleotides were synthesized using an Applied Biosystem 380A DNA synthesizer. Columns, phosphoramidites, and reagents used for oligonucleotide synthesis were obtained from Applied Biosystems, Inc. through Technical Marketing Associates. Oligonucleotides were purified by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis followed by DEAE cellulose chromatography. Enzymes for digesting and modifying DNA were purchased from New England Biolabs and used according to the supplier's recommendations. Radioisotopes [α-32P]dATP (3000 Ci/mmol) and [γ-32P]ATP (~3000 Ci/mmol) were from Amersham. Thiostrepton was donated by Squibb.

EXAMPLE 1 - Isolation of DNA

Chromosomal DNA was isolated from Streptomyces as described in Chater, K.F., D.A. Hopwood, T. Kieser, and C.J. Thomson (1982), Gene cloning in Streptomyces, Curr. Topics Microbiol. Immunol., 96:69-95, except that sodium dodecyl sarcosinate (final conc. 0.5%) was substituted for sodium dodecyl sulfate. Plasmid DNA of transformed S. lividans was prepared by an alkaline lysis procedure as set out in Hopwood, D.A., M.J. Bibb, K.F. Chater, T. Kieser, C.J. Bruton, H.M. Kieser, D.J. Lydiate, C.P. Smith, J.M. Ward, and H. Schrempf (1985), Genetic Manipulation of Streptomyces, A Laboratory Manual, The John Innes Foundation, Norwich, UK. Plasmid DNA from E. coli was purified by a rapid boiling method (Holmes, D.S., and M. Quigley (1981). A rapid boiling method for the preparation of bacterial plasmids, Anal. Biochem., 114:193-197). DNA fragments and vectors used for all constructions were separated by electrophoresis on low melting point agarose, and purified from the molten agarose by phenol extraction.

EXAMPLE 2 - Construction of Genomic Library

Chromosomal DNA of S. griseus ATCC 15395 was digested to completion of BamHI and fractionated by electrophoresis on a 0.8% low melting point agarose gel. DNA fragments ranging in size from 4 to 12 kilobase pairs (kb) were isolated from the agarose gel. The plasmid vectors pUC18 and pUC19 were digested with BamHI, and treated with calf intestinal alkaline phosphatase (Boehringer Mannheim). The S. griseus BamHI fragments (0.3 ug) and vectors (0.8 ug) were ligated in a final volume of 20 ul as described in Maniatis, T., E.F. Fritsch, and J. Sambrook (1982), Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY). Approximately 8000 transformants of HB101 were obtained from each ligation reaction.

EXAMPLE 3 - Subcloning of Protease Gene Fragments

A hybrid Streptomyces-E. coli vector was constructed by ligating pIJ702, which had been linearized by BamHI, into the BamHI site of pUC8. The unique BglII site of this vector was used for subcloning BamHI and BglII fragments fo the protease genes. Other fragments were adapted with BamHI linkers to facilitate ligation into the BglII site. The hybrid vector, with pUC8 inserted at the BamHI site of pIJ702, was incapable of replicating Streptomyces. However, the E. coli plasmid could be . readily removed prior to transforming S. lividans by digestion with BamHI followed by recircularization with T4 ligase.

EXAMPLE 4 - Construction for Testing the sprB Signal Peptide

The 0.4 kb Sau3AI-NcoI fragment containing the aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene promoter was isolated from pIJ61 and subcloned into the BamHI and NcoI sites of a suitable vector. The NcoI site containing the initiator ATG was joined to the MluI site of the sprB signal using two 43-mer oligonucleotides, which reconstructed the amino-terminus of the signal peptide. An amylase gene of S. griseus was adapted by ligating a 14-mer PstI linker to a SmaI site in the third codon. This removed the signal peptide and restored the amino-terminus of the mature amylase. The HaeII site of the sprB signal was joined to the PstI site of the amylase subclone using two 26-mer oligonucleotides, which reconstructed the carboxy-terminus of the signal peptide.

EXAMPLE 5 - Hybridization

A 20-mer (5'TTCCC(C/G)AACAACGACTACGG3') oligonucleotide was designed from an amino acid sequence (FPNNDYG) which was common to both proteases. For use as a hybridization probe, the oligonucleotide was end-labelled using T4 polynucleotide kinase (New England Biolabs) and [γ-32P]ATP. Digested genomic or plasmid DNA was transferred to a Hybond-N nylon membrane (Amersham) by electroblotting and hybridized in the presence of formamide (50%) as described in Hopwood, D.A., M.J. Bibb, K.F. Chater, T. Kieser, C.J. Bruton, H.M. Kieser, D.J. Lydiate, C.P. Smith, J.M. Ward, and H. Schrempf (1985), Genetic Manipulation of Streptomyces, A Laboratory Manual, The John Innes Foundation, Norwich, UK. The filters were hybridized with the labelled oligonucleotide probe at 30°C for 18h, and washed at

47° C. The S. griseus genomic library was screened by colony hybridization as described in Wallace, R.B., M.J. Johnson, T. Hirose, T. Miyake, E.H. Kawashima, and K. Itakura (1981), The use of synthetic oligonucleotides as hybridization probes. II. Hybridization of oligonucleotides of mixed sequence to rabbit globin DNA, Nucl. Acids Res, 9:879-894.

EXAMPLE 6 - DNA Sequencing

The sequences of sprA and sprB were determined using a combination of the chemical cleavage sequencing method (Maxam, A., and W. Gilbert (1977), A new method for sequencing DNA, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 74:560-564) and the dideoxy sequencing method (Sanger, F., S. Nicklen, and A.R. Coulson (1977), DNA sequencing with chain terminating inhibitors, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 74:5463:5467). Restriction fragments were end-labeled using either polynucleotide kinase or the large fragment of DNA Polymerase I (Amersham), with the appropriate radiolabeled nucleoside triphosphate. Labeled fragments were either digested with a second restriction endonuclease or strand-separated, followed by electroelution from a polyacrylamide gel. Subclones were prepared in the M13 bacteriophage and the dideoxy sequencing reactions were run using the -20 universal primer (New England Biolabs). In some areas of strong secondary structure, compressions and polymerase failure necessitated the use of either inosine (Mills, D.R., and F.R. Kramer (1979), Structure independent nucleotide sequence analysis, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 76:2232-2235) or 7-deazaguanosine (Mizusana, S., S. Nishimura, and F. Seela (1986), Improvement of the dideoxy chain termination method of DNA sequencing by use of deoxy-7-deazoguanosine triposphate in place of dGTP, Nucleic Acids Res., 14:1319-1324) analogs in the dideoxy reactions to clarify the sequence. The sequence were compiled using the software of DNASTARTM - (Doggette, P.E., and F.R. Blattner (1986), Personal access of sequence databases on personal computers, Nucleic Acids Res., 14:611-619).

Although preferred embodiments of the invention have been described in detail, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that variations may be made thereto without departing from either the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

Claims

1. A recombinant DNA sequence comprising a DNA signal sequence encoding a signal peptide and a DNA gene sequence encoding a protein, said recombinant DNA sequence when expressed in a living cell encoding said signal peptide with said protein, said signal peptide directing the secretion of said protein from a cell within which said DNA signal sequence is expressed.

2. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1 wherein said DNA signal sequence is adapted for expression in a living cell of the genera Streptomyces.

3. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 2 wherein said DNA signal sequence encodes a peptide having a 38-amino acid sequence.

4. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1, wherein said sequence is inserted in a suitable vector.

5. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 4 wherein said vector is a plasmid or phage.

6. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1 wherein said DNA gene sequence encodes an enzyme.

7. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1 wherein said DNA signal sequence is adapted for expression in a living cell having enzymes catalyzing the formation of disulphide bonds.

8. A recombinant DNA sequence of claim 7 wherein said enzymes include protein disulphide oxidoreductase.

9. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence encoding a 38-amino acid signal peptide which directs secretion of a recombinant gene protein linked to such 38-amino acid signal peptide from a cell in which said DNA signal sequence is expressed, said DNA signal sequence being isolated from Streptomyces.

10. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of claim 9 wherein said Streptomyces is Streptomyces griseus.

11. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of claim 10 wherein said Streptomyces is Streptomyces griseus strain ATCC 15395.

12. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of claim 11 wherein said DNA sequence is isolated from either of two genes of said strain encoding, respectively, protease A and protease B.

13. Biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequences of claim 12 wherein each of said DNA sequences as isolated from each of said two genes has a DNA homology with the other DNA sequence of approximately 58%.

14. A DNA signal sequence of claim 9 in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein wherein said signal sequence and said gene sequence are inserted in a suitable vector.

15. A DNA signal sequence of claim 10 in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein wherein said signal sequence and said gene sequence are inserted in a suitable vector.

16. A DNA signal sequence of claim 11 in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein wherein said signal sequence and said gene sequence are inserted in a suitable vector.

17. A DNA signal sequence of claim 12 in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein wherein said signal sequence and said gene sequence are inserted in a suitable vector.

18. A DNA signal sequence of claim 13 in conjunction with a gene sequence encoding a protein wherein said signal sequence and said gene sequence are inserted in a suitable vector.

19. A vector of claim 14 or 15 wherein said vector is a plasmid or phage.

20. A vector of claim 16, 17 or 18 wherein said vector is a plasmid or phage.

21. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of claim 9 having the sequence of Figure 4a.

22. A biologically pure isolated DNA signal sequence of claim 9 having the sequence of Figure 5a.

23. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1.

24. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 2.

25. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 3.

26. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 4.

27. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 5.

28. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 6.

29. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 7.

30. A fused protein encoded by said recombinant DNA sequence of claim 8.

31. A fused protein of claim 23 comprising the amino acid sequence of Figure 4a in conjunction with an amino acid sequence of a protein which is normally foreign to the living cell in which said fused protein is formed.

32. A fused protein of claim 23 comprising the amino acid sequence of Figure 5a in conjunction with an amino acid sequence of a protein which is normally foreign to the living cell in which said fused protein is formed.

33. A transformed prokaryotic cell comprising a vector of claim 14 inserted into said cell.

34. A transformed prokaryotic cell comprising a vector of claim 15 inserted into said cell.

35. A transformed prokaryotic cell comprising a vector of claim 16 inserted into said cell.

36. A transformed prokaryotic cell comprising a vector of claim 17 inserted into said cell.

37. A transformed prokaryotic cell comprising a vector of claim 18 inserted into said cell.

38. A transformed prokaryotic cell of claim 33 or 34 wherein said vector is a plasmid or phage.

39. A transformed prokaryotic cell of claim 35, 36 or 37 wherein said vector is a plasmid or phage.

40. A transformed prokaryotic cell of claim 33 or 34 wherein said cell is selected from the Streptomyces genera.

41. A transformed prokaryotic cell of claim 35, 36 or 37 wherein said cell is selected from the Streptomyces genera.

42. A biologically pure culture of a transformed prokaryotic cell, said cell being transformed with a recombinant DNA sequence of claim 1 being inserted into said cell in suitable vector, said culture producing the fused protein of said amino acid signal peptide and said protein as a short-lived intermediate and, said culture producing the said protein in a recoverable quantity upon fermentation in an aqueous nutrient medium, said signal peptide directing the secretion of said protein from said cell.

43. A biologically pure culture of claim 42 wherein said prokaryotic cell contains enzymes catalyzing the formation of disulphide bonds.

44. A biologically pure culture of claim 43 wherein said enzymes include protein disulphide oxidoreductase.

45. A biologically pure culture of claim 42 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from the Streptomyces genera.

46. A biologically pure culture of claim 43 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from the Streptomyces genera.

47. A biologically pure culture of claim 44 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from the Streptomyces genera.

48. A biologically pure culture of claim 45 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from Streptomyces lividans.

49. A biologically pure culture of claim 46 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from Streptomyces lividans.

50. A biologically pure culture of claim 47 wherein said prokaryotic cell is selected from Streptomyces lividans.

51. A biologically pure DNA sequence isolated from Streptomyces griseus encoding for a fused protein of signal peptide-propeptide-protease A structure, said DNA sequence having the combined DNA sequence of Figures 4a, 4b and 4c.

52. A biologically pure DNA sequence isolated from Streptomyces griseus encoding for a fused protein of signal peptide-propeptide-protease B structure, said DNA sequence having the combined DNA sequence of Figures 5a, 5b and 5c.

FIGURE 1

TYPICAL BIOPHARMACEUTICAL WORKUP

Recombinant Protein

Produced in E. coli

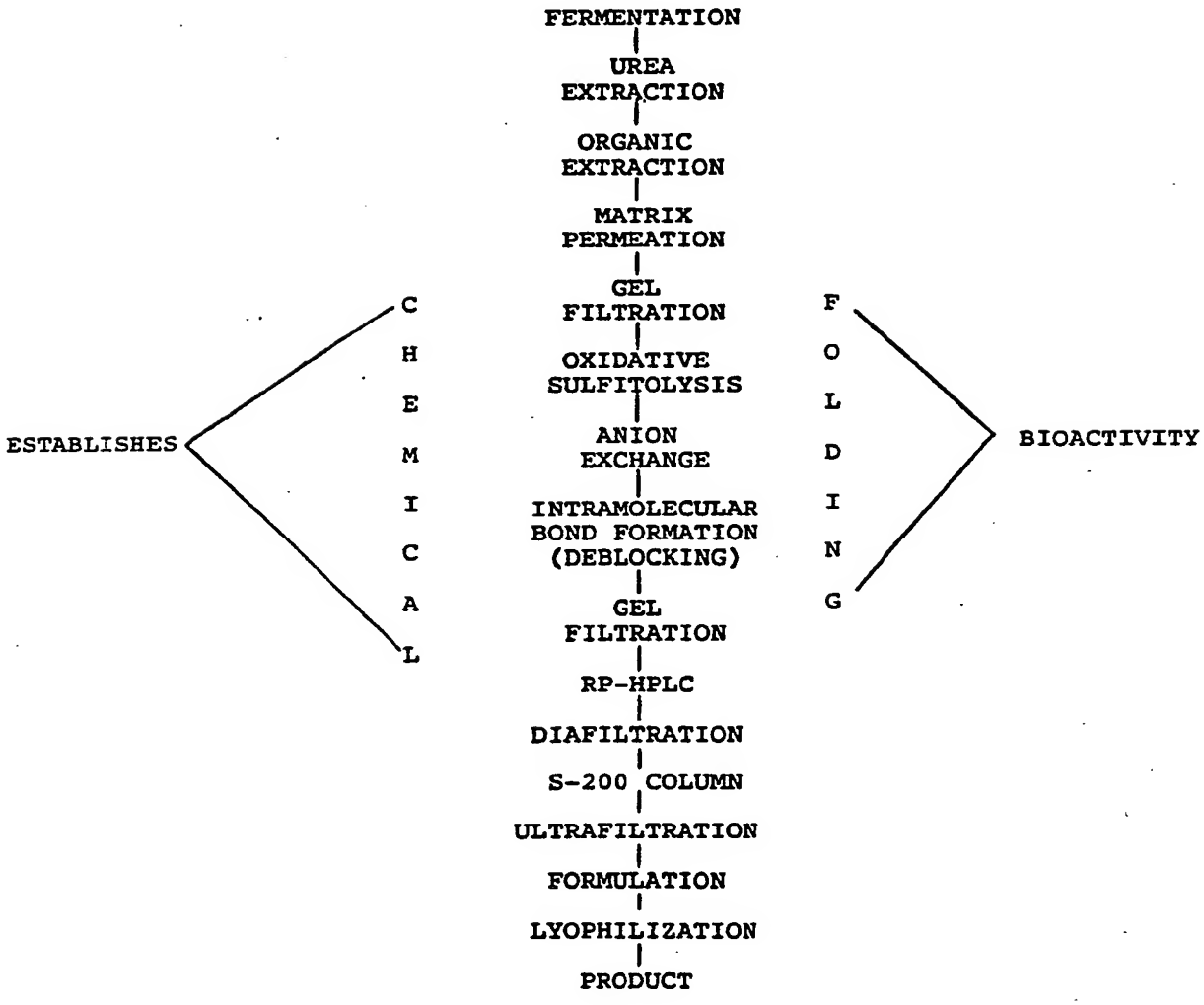


FIG.2.

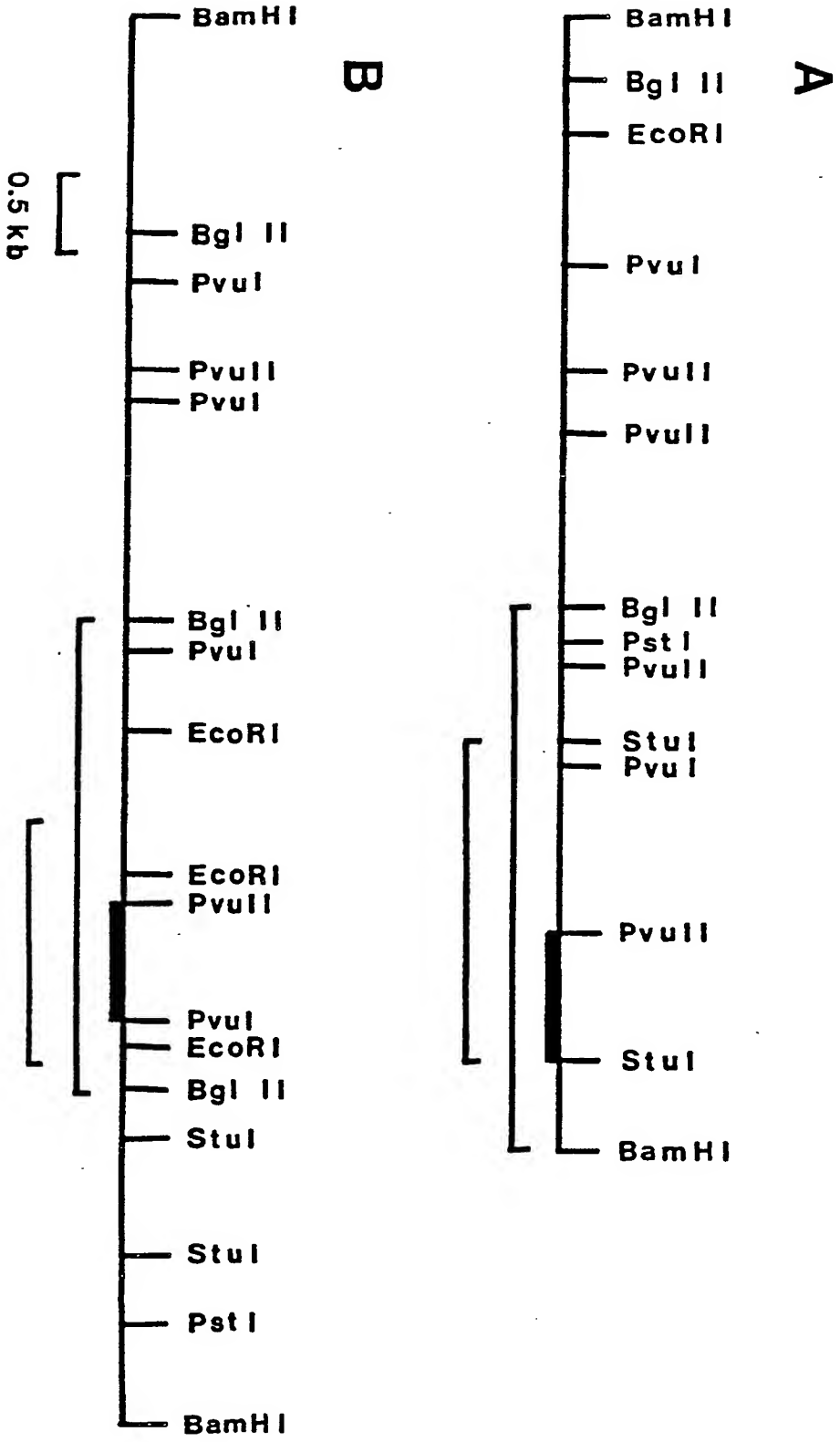
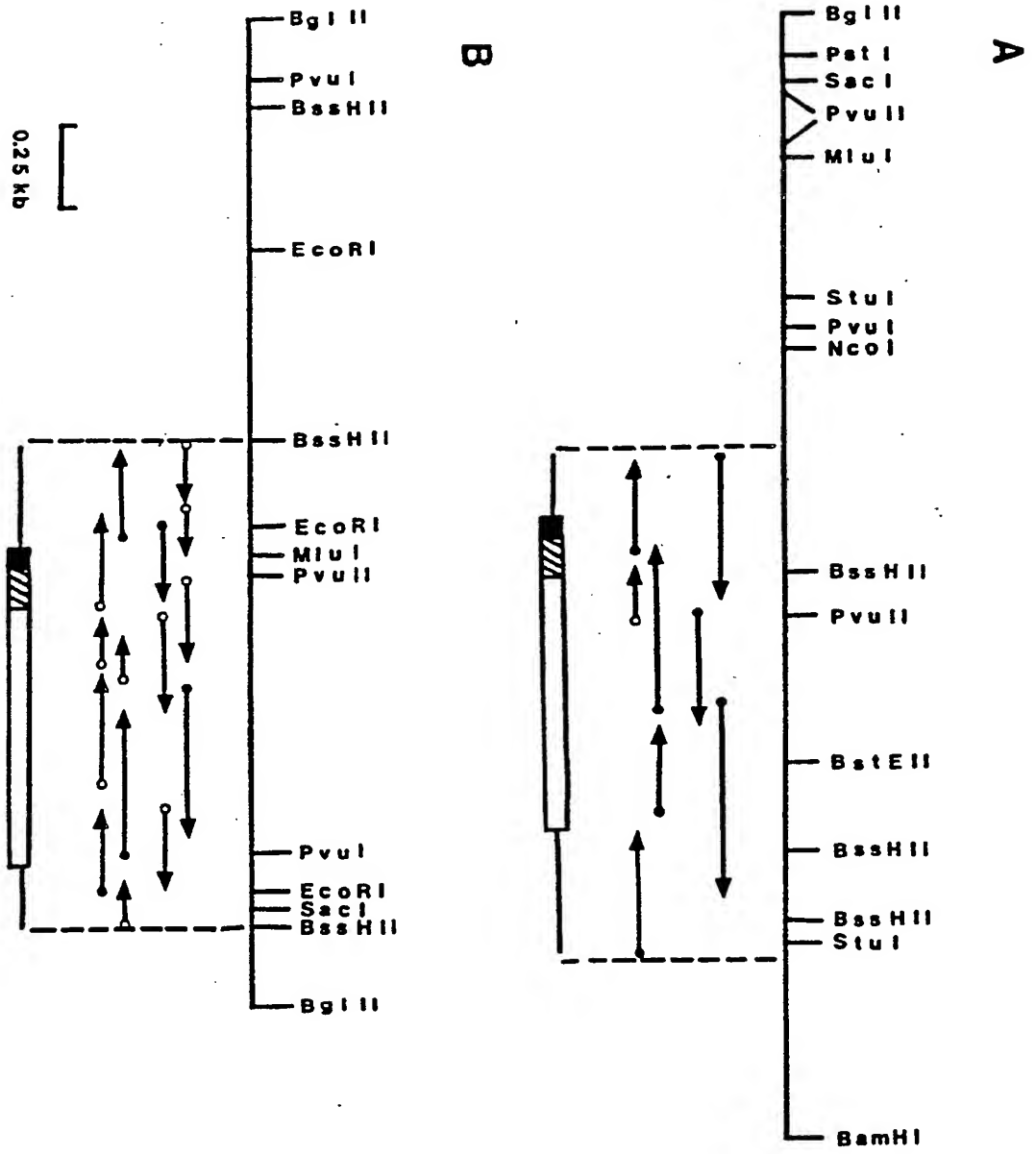


FIG.3.



A

```
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CAGCGTGCAACTTGGCAGGTTCACGCCCACTCCCACTGGGTGAGAACCTCGCGCACCAACGGCCCCACCTCACCC
                                    -116
                              .....  M  T  F  K  R  F  S  P  L  S  S  T  S  R
GACCGGGCCGTCCCCCCATACCTCGGAGGATCTCGTGACCTTCAAGCGCTTCTCGCCGCTCAGCAGCACGTCAAG
     -100                                                              -80  ↓
  Y  A  R  L  L  A  V  A  S  G  L  V  A  A  A  A  A  L  A  T  P  S  A  V  A  A
ATATGCACGGCTCCTCGCCGTGGCCTCCGGCCTGGTGGCCGCCGCGGCCCTGGCCACCCCCTCGGCCGTCGCCGC
                                                          -60
  P  E  A  E  S  K  A  T  V  S  Q  L  A  D  A  S  S  A  I  L  A  A  D  V  A
TCCCGAGGCGGAGTCCAAGGCCACCGTTTCGCAGCTCGCCGACGCCAGCTCCGCCATCCTCGCCGCTGATGTGGC
                                       -40
  G  T  A  W  Y  T  E  A  S  T  G  K  I  V  L  T  A  D  S  T  V  S  K  A  E
GGGCACCGCCTGGTACACGGAGGCGAGCACGGGCAAGATCGTCCTCACCGCCGACAGCACCGTGTCGAAGGCCGA
                   -20
  L  A  K  V  S  N  A  L  A  G  S  K  A  K  L  T  V  K  R  A  E  G  K  F  T
ACTGGCCAAGGTCAGCAACGCGCTGGCGGGCTCCAAGGCGAAACTGACGGTCAAGCGCGCCGAGGGCAAGTTCAC
                                                                20
  P  L  I  A  G  G  E  A  I  T  T  G  G  S  R  C  S  L  G  F  N  V  S  V  N
CCCGCTGATCGCGGGCGGCGAGGCCATCACCACCGGTGGCAGCCGCTGTTCGCTCGGCTTCAACGTGTCGGTCAA
                                                40
  G  V  A  H  A  L  T  A  G  H  C  T  N  I  S  A  S  W  S  I  G  T  R  T  G
CGGCGTCGCCCACGCGCTCACCGCCGGCCACTGCACCAACATCAGCGCCAGCTGGTCCATCGGCACGCGCACCGG
                                       60
  T  S  F  P  N  N  D  Y  G  I  I  R  H  S  N  P  A  A  A  D  G  R  V  Y  L
AACCAGCTTCCCGAACAACGACTACGGCATCATCCGCCACTCGAACCCGGCGGCGGCCGACGGCCGGGTCTACCT
                   80
  Y  N  G  S  Y  Q  D  I  T  T  A  G  N  A  F  V  G  Q  A  V  Q  R  S  G  S
GTACAACGGCTCCTACCAGGACATCACGACGGCGGGCAACGCCTTTGTGGGGCAGGCCGTCCAGCGCAGCGGCAG
   100                                                              120
  T  T  G  L  R  S  G  S  V  T  G  L  N  A  T  V  N  Y  G  S  S  G  I  V  Y
CACCACCGGGCTGCGCAGCGGCTCGGTCACCGGCCTCAACGCCACGGTCAACTACGGTTCCAGCGGGATCGTGTA
                                                   140
  G  M  I  Q  T  N  V  C  A  E  P  G  D  S  G  G  S  L  F  A  G  S  T  A  L
CGGCATGATCCAGACCAACGTCTGTGCCGAGCCCGGTGACAGTGGAGGCTCGCTCTTCGCGGGCAGCACCGCTCT
                                       160
  G  L  T  S  G  G  S  G  N  C  R  T  G  G  T  T  F  Y  Q  P  V  T  E  A  L
GGGTCTCACCTCCGGCGGCAGTGGCAACTGCCGGACCGGCGGCACCACGTTCTACCAGCCCGTCACCGAGGCGCT
                   181
  S  A  Y  G  A  T  V  L  *                    -41.0
GAGCGCCTACGGGGCAACGGTCCTGTAGCCGGTGCCACCGGGGCTTCGGGCTGACCGCCGACCGGCCGCCCGAAG
                                  -30.8
CCCCGCGCGACGCCCCACCCCGGCGGACCGTGCTCGCGCGCGGTCCGCCCTCGCCGTGCCACGAACCCCACCGTC

CTTTCCCCGTCAGGCGCCTGCCGCTCGACCCGCATCGCGAAGTTGCCGAGAGTGGCCGGCTCGCACCGGCACTGC

TGAAGTCCTGCCCTCGCCCCACGGTCCGGTTCGCGCCCGCCCGGACGCGGACCCGCGCCTGGGGAAGCCCTCACT

CAACCCCGTTGCGCGCGGATGAGGTCGCGATACCAGGCGAAGGAGGCCTTCGGGGTGCGGACCTGTGTCTCGTGG

TCGAC
```
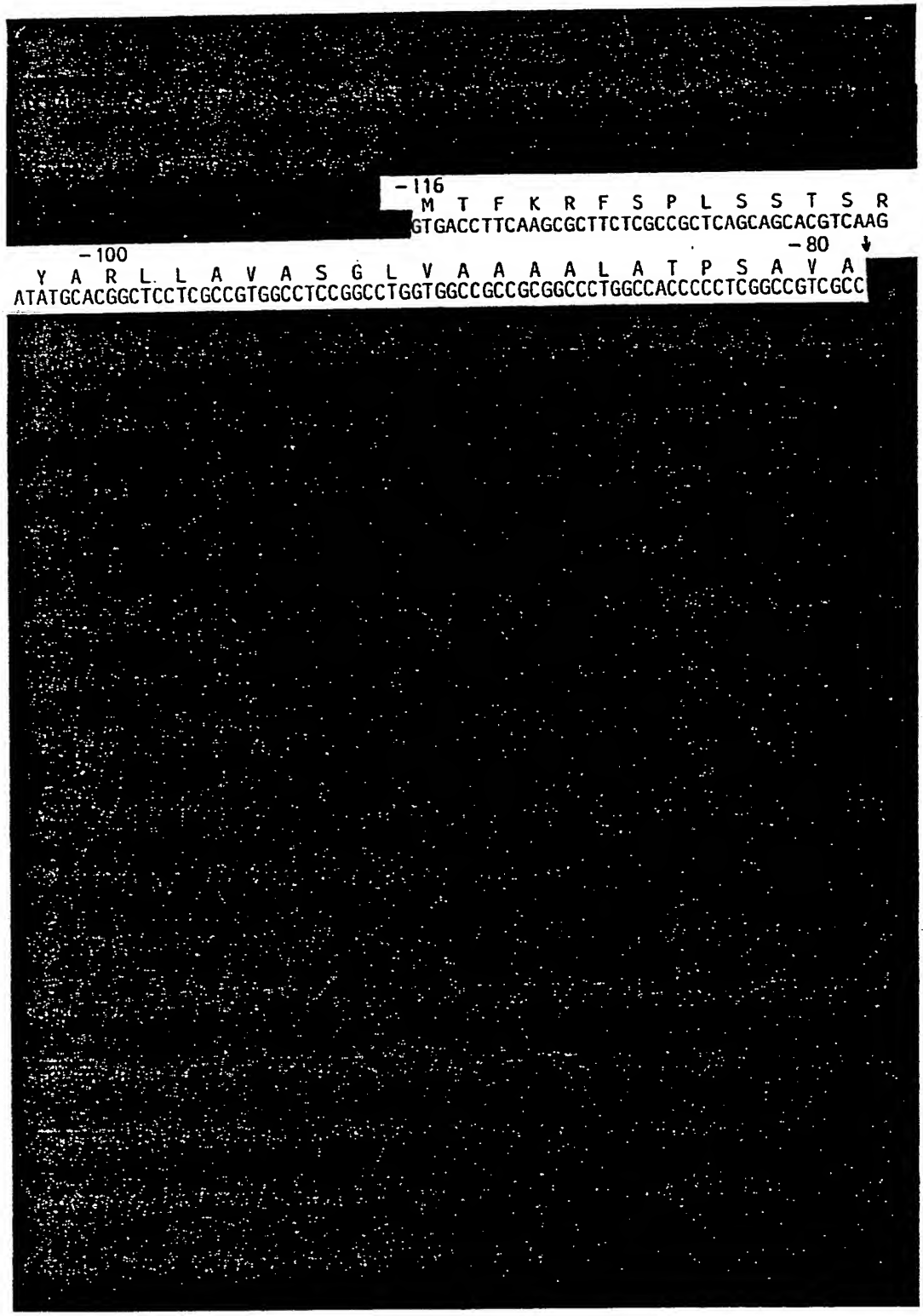

FIG.4.

FIG.4A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-100
Y A R L L A V A S G L V A A A A A L A T P S A V A
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FIG.4B.

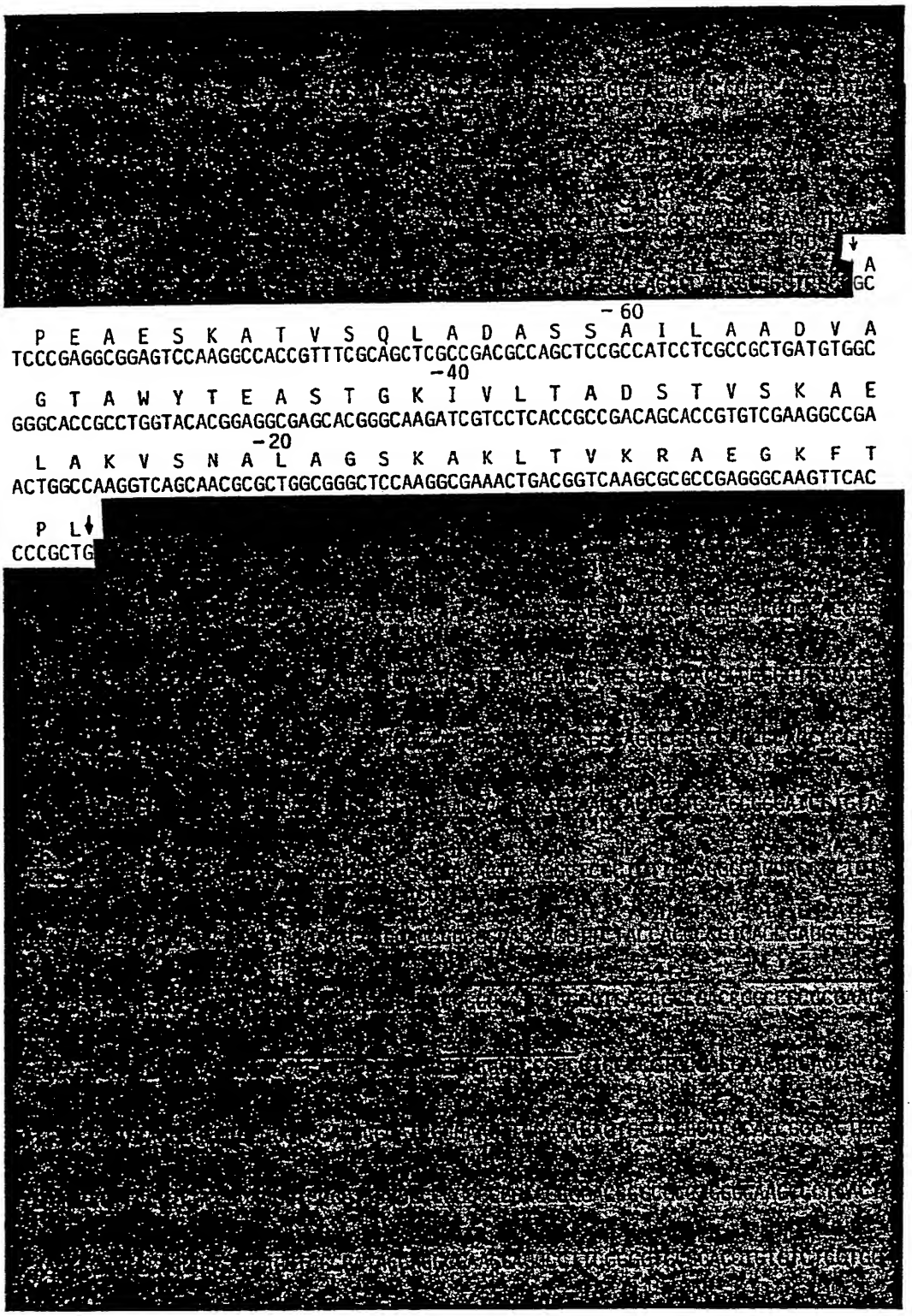
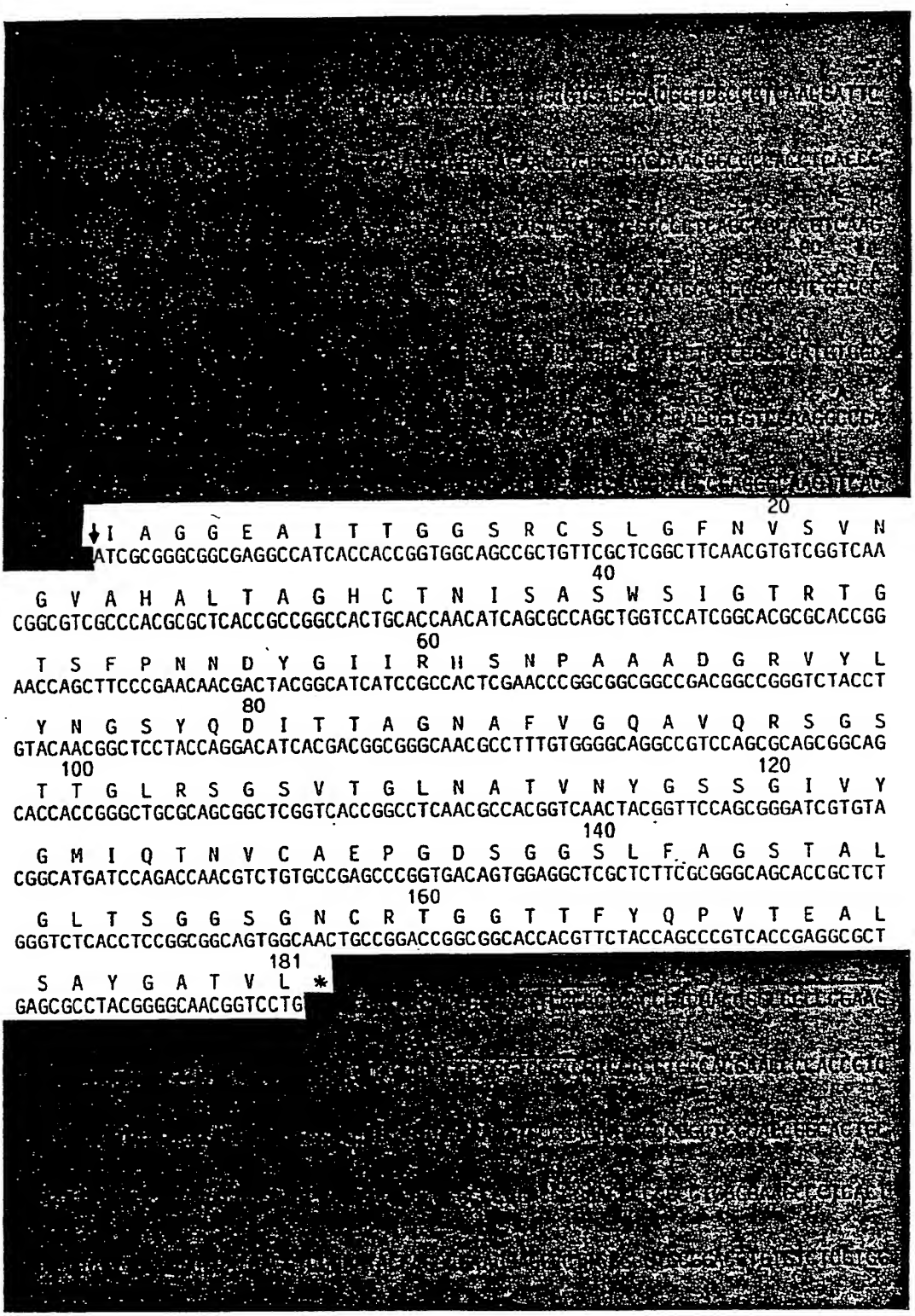

A
GC
-60
P E A E S K A T V S Q L A D A S S A I L A A D V A
TCCCGAGGCGGAGTCCAAGGCCACCGTTTCGCAGCTCGCCGACGCCAGCTCCGCCATCCTCGCCGCTGATGTGGC
-40
G T A W Y T E A S T G K I V L T A D S T V S K A E
GGGCACCGCCTGGTACACGGAGGCGAGCACGGGCAAGATCGTCCTCACCGCCGACAGCACCGTGTCGAAGGCCGA
-20
L A K V S N A L A G S K A K L T V K R A E G K F T
ACTGGCCAAGGTCAGCAACGCGCTGGCGGGCTCCAAGGCGAAACTGACGGTCAAGCGCGCCGAGGGCAAGTTCAC
P L
CCCGCTG

FIG.4C.



B

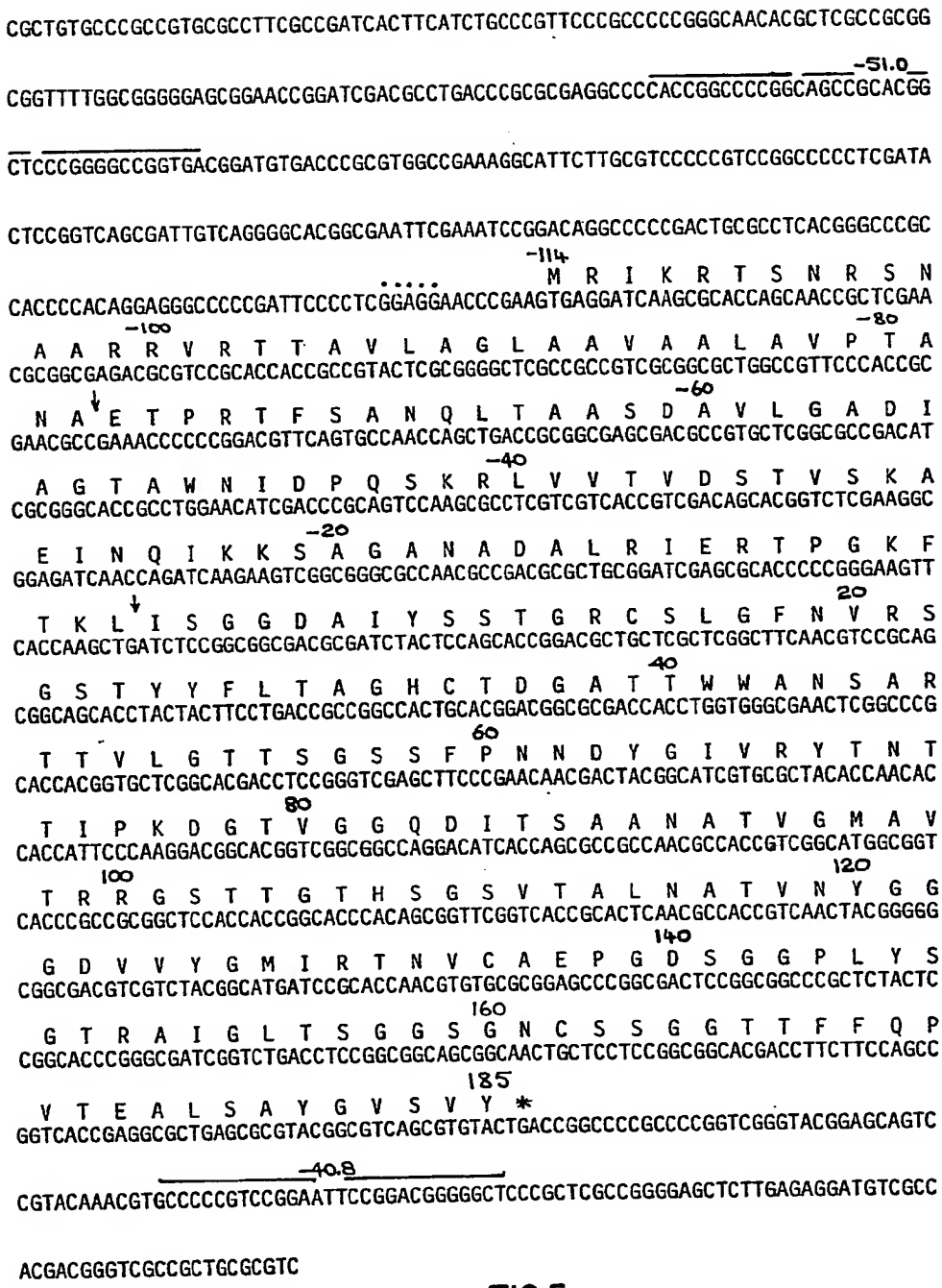


FIG.5.

FIG.5A.

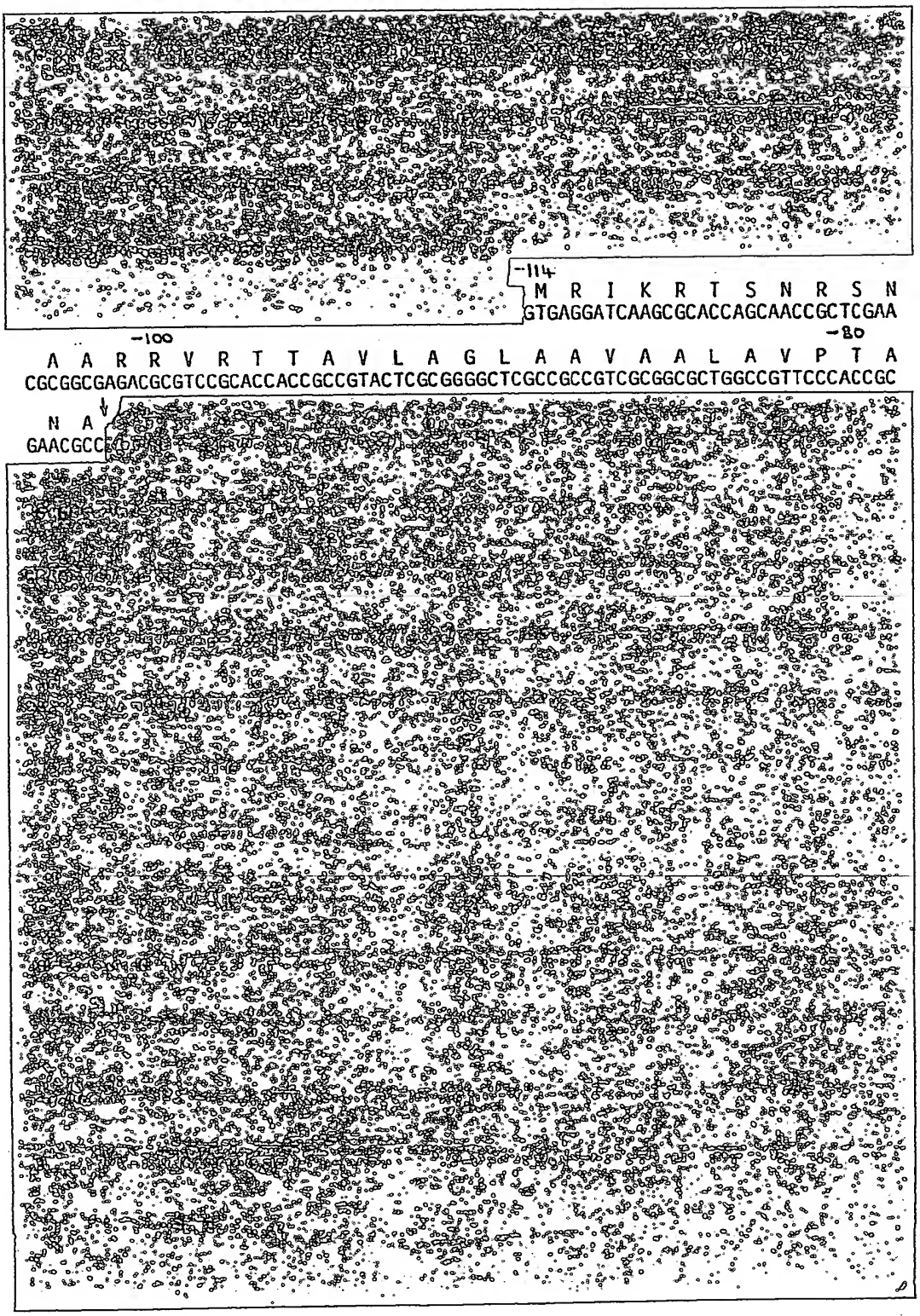

-114
M R I K R T S N R S N
GTGAGGATCAAGCGCACCAGCAACCGCTCGAA
-80
-100
A A R R V R T T A V L A G L A A V A A L A V P T A
CGCGGCGAGACGCGTCCGCACCACCGCCGTACTCGCGGGGCTCGCCGCCGTCGCGGCGCTGGCCGTTCCCACCGC
N A
GAACGCC

FIG.5B.

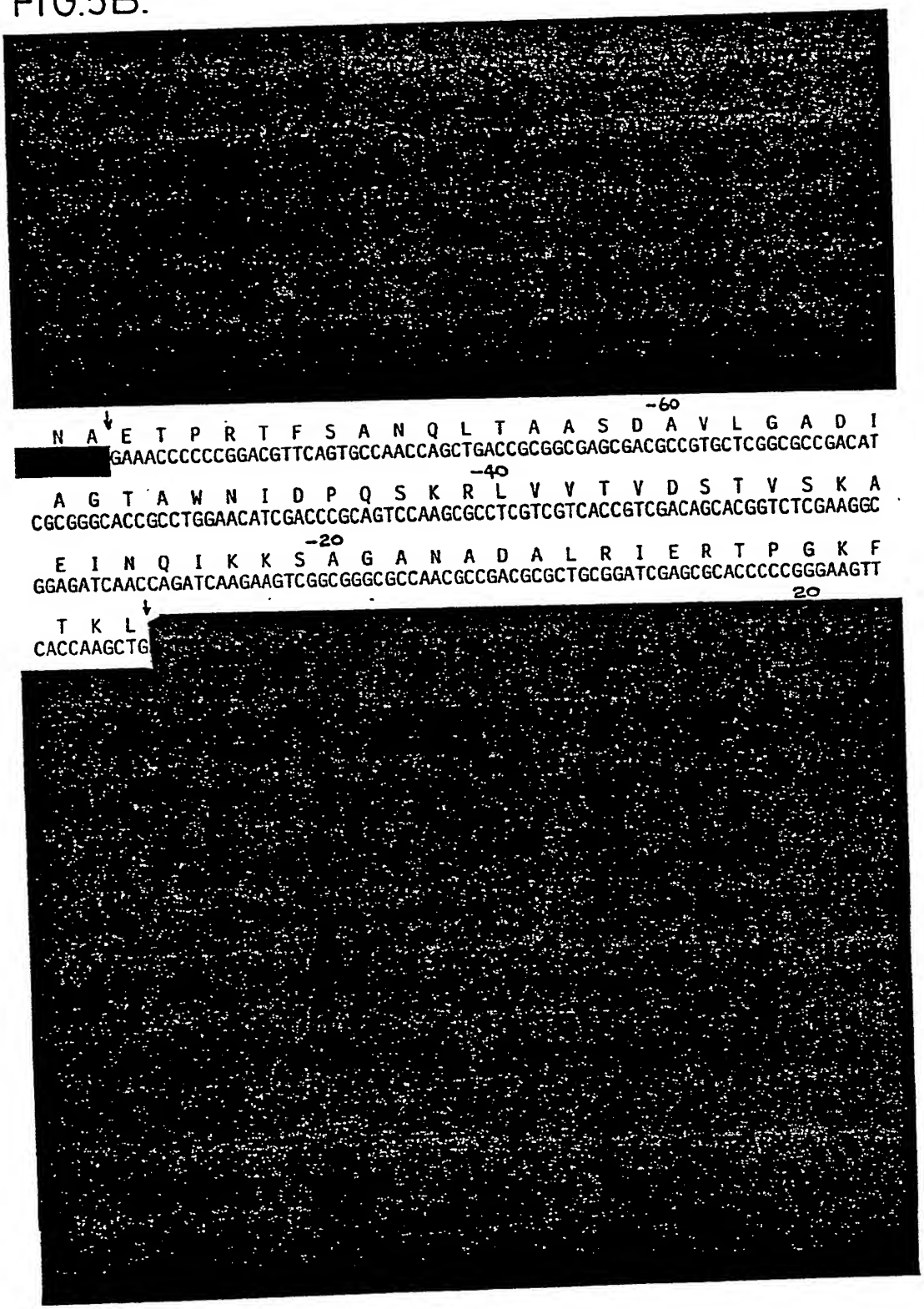


FIG.5C.

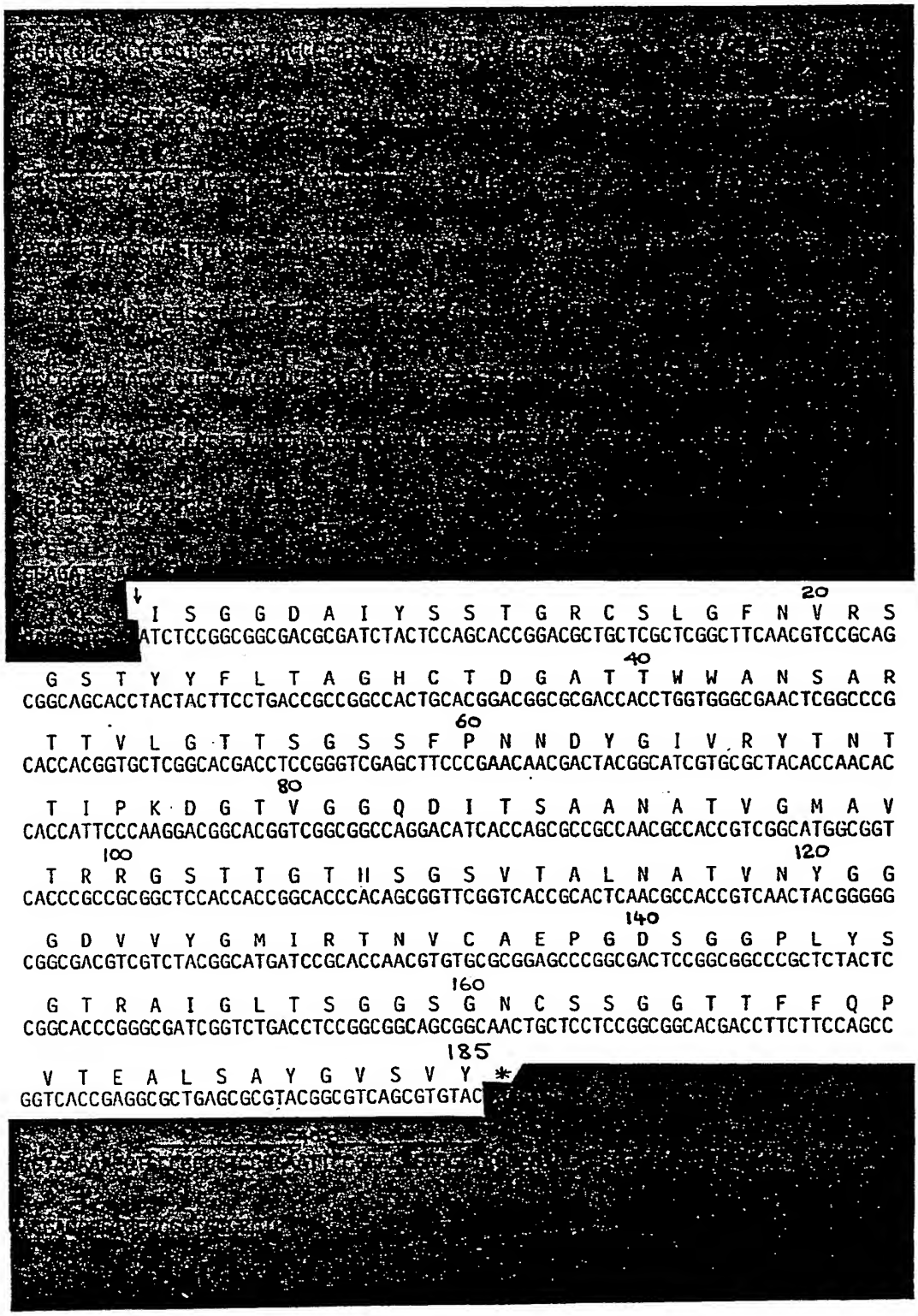


FIG.6A.

A

```
sprA    MTFKRFSPLSSTSRYARLLAVASGLVAAAALATPSAVA
        M  KR S  S   R  R  AV  GL A AALA P A A
sprB    MRIKRTSNRSNAARRVRTTAVLAGLAAVAALAVPTANA
```

FIG.6B.

B

```
sprA    APEAESKATVSQLADASSAILAADVAGTAWYTEASTGKI
              A   QL  AS A L AD AGTAW
sprB    ETPRTFSAN--QLTAASDAVLGADIAGTAWNIDPQSKRL

sprA    VLTADSTVSKAELAKVSNALAGSKAK-LTVKRAEGKFTPL
        V T DSTVSKAE         AG  A  L   R  GKFT L
sprB    VVTVDSTVSKAEINQIKKS-AGANADALRIERTPGKFTKL
```

FIG.6C.

C

```
sprA    IAGGEAITTGGSRCSLGFNVSVNGVAHALTAGHCTNIS
        I GG AI      RCSLGFNV          LTAGHCT
sprB    ISGGDAIYSSTGRCSLGFNVRSGSTYYFLTAGHCTDGA

sprA    ASWS--------IGTRTGTSFPNNDYGIIRHSNPAAA-
          W           GT  G SFPNNDYGI R  N
sprB    TTWWANSARTTVLGTTSGSSFPNNDYGIVRYTNTTIPK

sprA    DGRVYLYNGSYQDITTAGNAFVGQAVQRSGSTTGLRSG
        DG V    G  QDIT A NA VG AV R GSTTG  SG
sprB    DGTV----GG-QDITSAANATVGMAVTRRGSTTGTHSG

sprA    SVTGLNATVNYGSSGIVYGMIQTNVCAEPGDSGGSLFA
        SVT LNATVNYG    VYGMI TNVCAEPGDSGG L
sprB    SVTALNATVNYGGGDVVYGMIRTNVCAEPGDSGGPLYS

sprA    GSTALGLTSGGSGNCRTGGTTFYQPVTEALSAYGATVL
        G  A GLTSGGSGNC  GGTTF QPVTEALSAYG  V
sprB    GTRAIGLTSGGSGNCSSGGTTFFQPVTEALSAYGVSVY
```

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 88 11 1713

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X	EP-A-0 222 279 (CANGENE CORP.) * Whole document *	1-52	C 12 N 15/00 C 12 N 1/20 C 07 H 21/04 // (C 12 N 1/20 C 12 R 1:465)
X	EP-A-0 196 375 (MEIJA SEIKA K.K.) * Whole document *	1-2,4-8,23-24,26-30,42-50	
X	EP-A-0 213 898 (SANKYO CO., LTD) * Whole document *	1-2,4-8,23-24,26-30,42-50	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	03-10-1988	CASTRO Y GONZALEZ R.F.

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